

that gives OLC opinions the force of law.”

The Attorney General is absolutely correct. Only Congress can change the Wire Act, and only the courts can interpret the act’s reach.

To make clear that the Wire Act still bans all Internet gambling, the committee report accompanying the CJS appropriations bill includes the following statement:

Internet Gambling.—Since 1961, the Wire Act has prohibited nearly all forms of gambling over interstate wires, including the Internet. However, beginning in 2011, certain States began to permit Internet gambling. The Committee notes that the Wire Act did not change in 2011. The Committee also notes that the Supreme Court of the United States has stated that “criminal laws are for courts, not for the Government, to construe.” *Abramski v. U.S.*, 134 S.Ct. 2259, 2274, 2014, internal citation omitted.

I was pleased to join with my colleague from California, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, in offering this language. I appreciate the chairman and the ranking member having agreed to have it included with this legislation.

Any jurisdiction considering authorizing Internet gambling—and any entity seeking to participate in offering online casinos in this country—is well advised to consider that the Justice Department decision of 2011 did not change the Wire Act.

The question of whether there should be online casinos in this Nation has been polled widely over the past few years. It seems that no matter where one goes, Internet gambling is opposed by the public by wide margins, even in States where there is significant support for land-based casinos.

The public recognizes that there is something fundamentally different between having to go to a destination to place a bet and having a casino come to you, in your own home or office on an electronic device.

Regardless of how Senators may feel about this issue, I hope we can all agree that whether Internet gambling should be permitted in this country is a question for Congress to determine, not unelected Federal bureaucrats.

POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I have come to the floor today to shed some light on the impacts of postpartum depression among our Nation’s mothers.

Just a bit over a month ago, I sat down with a local Anchorage reporter as part of a series addressing the impacts of postpartum depression, PPD. As part of a four-part series, seven brave, strong, passionate women from the Anchorage community came forward and shared their stories. I joined those women in sharing my own account of the difficulties I faced as I transitioned into my new role as a mother.

I have been inspired by these women and other advocates that fight so hard to help raise awareness of PPD, and I

wanted to share the story of one woman who lost her daughter to PPD. I met this woman shortly after I filmed my interview. She works in Anchorage and Wasilla, AK, as a child and adolescent psychiatrist and has always been passionate about providing care and support to children and adolescents in an effort to reduce and prevent suicide. She began to advocate for PPD after her daughter, Brittany, suffered and ultimately lost her life to PPD. She was only 25 years old.

Brittany was a bright, passionate, and lively young woman. She was born in Fairfax, VA in 1989. She excelled in school and graduated with an international baccalaureate degree at age 16 from Mount Vernon High School. Brittany loved animals and dreamt of becoming a sports veterinarian 1 day. She continued to excel academically while taking preveterinarian courses through the University of Pittsburgh and later online through North Carolina State University.

One of Brittany’s main life goals was to race in one of my favorite Alaskan events, the Iditarod. She owned, raced, and showed several Siberian Huskies, but also worked as a dog handler for Karen Ramstead as part of Karen’s preparation for the Iditarod. But above all else, Brittany considered motherhood to be her greatest achievement.

Sadly, she began to struggle with PPD after a complicated delivery resulting with her newborn son spending a week in the neonatal intensive care unit. Brittany suffered from violent and powerful emotions and sought treatment from her physicians for PPD. Her cries for help went unanswered as her physicians were unable or were ill-equipped to help her. Around her son’s first birthday Brittany lost her battle with PPD. Shortly thereafter, a successful Iditarod athlete, DeeDee Janrowe, raced the Iditarod in Brittany’s honor. As I have said, Brittany was a bright, motivated, loving young woman who was stuck down early in her life because she did not have the access to the treatment she needed. Her story is one of many. PPD impacts women of every race, income, and background.

All too often, women who have PPD feel helpless, overwhelmed, and confused. They may feel like they are not properly bonded with their babies or ill-equipped for parenthood and cannot understand what might have gone wrong. Often, we assume that with parenthood comes immediate joy, but in fact, one in seven mothers nationwide will suffer from PPD. In Alaska, our numbers are twice the national average at one in three. There are some non-profit organization that seek to raise awareness and help women connect with treatment for PPD, but often, they are located in only the most populous parts of a State, but what about the rural communities? What about the women who are unable to receive a proper screening, diagnosis, or treatment early on?

That is why I support legislation like the Bringing Postpartum Depression Out of the Shadows Act, and I want to thank Senators ALEXANDER, MURRAY, CASSIDY, and MURPHY for including PPD in the Mental Health Reform Act. I have cosponsored both pieces of legislation because I believe we must do more to ensure the proper screening and treatment of PPD. I support efforts to improve culturally competent programs that will help educate physicians, especially primary care providers, on the proper detection and treatment of PPD. This will not only benefit the women suffering from PPD but improve the health and well-being of their children and their families as a whole. With so many mothers across Alaska and the Nation facing PPD, it is essential we put this issue at the forefront and openly discuss, educate, and improve our understanding of this illness.

I stand here today in support of women all across the Nation facing PPD, and I will continue to advocate for the services they deserve.

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER PRIDE MONTH 2016

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender, LGBT, Pride Month. Reaching back to Stonewall, June carries a special significance for LGBT individuals across the Nation. For more than 40 years LGBT Pride month has been a time for all Americans to celebrate the immeasurable contributions LGBT individuals have made to our great Nation, the progress the LGBT community has made in the U.S. and abroad, and the challenges faced in the fight for equality.

America’s never-ending effort to become a “more perfect union” involves the long quest to secure equal rights and justice for the LGBT community by, as I just said, changing hearts, minds, and policy. The last year has seen hard-fought progress for the LGBT Americans.

With the Supreme Court’s decision last June in *Obergefell v. Hodges*, same-sex marriage is now a fundamental right in every State in the Union. After years of legal battles and families being told that the government would not recognize their love and mutual commitment in the same way it might view their neighbors, the Supreme Court finally ruled that equality is an inherently American value that should not be denied or taken away from anyone. And just this past Friday, President Obama designated the historic site of the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in New York City as our Nation’s newest national monument. This designation will create the first official National Park Service unit dedicated to telling the story of LGBT Americans.

The LGBT community has made strides in righting past wrongs. I commend Defense Secretary Ash Carter for